

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 HA-05 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /068 W
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O 121825Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4273
INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USNATO
USICA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 16298

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR TOON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, UR
SUBJECT: GINZBURG TRIAL: AFTERNOON OF THIRD DAY

1. EMBOFF HAS REPORTED FROM KALUGA THAT DURING JULY 12
AFTERNOON SESSION THE COURT CONCLUDED EXAMINATION OF
DOCUMENTS AND HEARD PROSECUTOR CALL FOR SENTENCE OF
EIGHT YEARS' IMPRISONMENT, SPECIAL REGIME (THE MOST
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RESTRICTIVE CATEGORY) PLUS THREE YEARS' EXILE (THE
MAXIMUM IS 10 YEARS' DEPRIVATION OF FREEDOM PLUS
FIVE YEARS' EXILE). THE PROSECUTOR REPORTEDLY CITED
AS ELEMENTS OF GINZBURG'S "CRIME" THE DOCUMENTS HE
PREPARED, THE FUND FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS, AND
THE "ANTI-SOVIET LITERATURE" HE DISTRIBUTED.

2. GINZBURG HAS ASKED THAT HE BE ALLOWED TO DEFEND HIMSELF, AND THE COURT HAS UNDERTAKEN TO DECIDE WHETHER HIS HEALTH WILL ALLOW THIS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ONE OF THE WITNESSES TOLD GINZBURG SUPPORTERS THAT GINZBURG APPEARED IN POOR HEALTH, AND HAD ASKED FOR A BREAK AND FOR MEDICATION. GINZBURG REPORTEDLY WAS ALLOWED TO REST, AND WAS GIVEN AN INJECTION PLUS SOME UNIDENTIFIED TABLETS. THE WITNESS ADDED THAT GINZBURG SEEMED TO HAVE DIFFICULTY SPEAKING.

3. MRS. GINZBURG WAS NOT ALLOWED IN THE COURTROOM FOR THE AFTERNOON SESSION. WHEN SHE LEARNED THAT HER HUSBAND HAD BEEN GIVEN MEDICATION, SHE ASKED TO SEE HIM OR AT LEAST TO SPEAK WITH THE DOCTOR. SHE WAS ADMITTED INTO THE COURT BUILDING, BUT WAS NOT ALLOWED TO SEE GINZBURG. SHE STILL DOES NOT KNOW IF SHE WILL BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND TOMORROW'S SESSIONS.

4. BY THE END OF THE DAY SOME 40 OF GINZBURG'S SUPPORTERS WERE OUTSIDE OF THE COURTHOUSE. THE SCENE WAS CALM. NO OTHER EMBASSY WAS REPRESENTED. MATLOCK

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